

Message Text

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FOLL REPEAT GENEVA 5251 ACTION SECSTATE

INFO DEPT OF DEFENSE, ERDA GERMANTOWN MD, MOSCOW AND USDEL

SALT TWO GENEVA 07 JUL 75:

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DISTO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CCD PARM

SUBJECT: CCO-UK QUESTIONS FOR INFORMAL MEETING ON PEACEFUL
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS

1. THOMAS AND WHITE OF UK DEL PASSED QUESTIONS REPORTED
PARA 3 BELOW TO US DELOFF WESTERVELT. THEY SAID UK DEL
THOUGHT THESE QUESTIONS WOULD ARISE AT PNE MEETING.
UK DEL WOULD BE GUIDED BY US VIEWS IN DECIDING WHETHER
NOT NOT TO RAISE ANY OF QUESTIONS.

2. WESTERVELT SUGGESTED FIRST QUESTION BE REPHRASED,
REPLACING WORDS "MILITARY PURPOSE" WITH "POTENTIAL FOR
MILITARY APPLICATION." HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE THIRD
QUESTION WAS BEING ADDRESSED IN THE IAEA STUDY OF PNES.
THOMAS AND WHITE SAID THEY CONSIDERED QUESTIONS 5, 7

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AND 8 PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT.

3. UK QUESTIONS FOLLOW:

- (1) WITH THE PRESENT STATE OF TEHCNOLOGY IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE TO VERIFY THAT ANY ALLEGED PNE DOES NOT HAVE A MILITARY PURPOSE?
- (2) CAN ANY PNE EXCAVATION PROGRAM BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT BREAKING THE SPIRIT, IF NOT THE LETTER, OF THE LTBT?
- (3) HOW COST EFFECTIVE ARE PNES IN RELATION TO CONVENTIONAL TECHNIQUES?
- (4) FOR WHAT PURPOSES ARE PNES MOST LIKELY TO PROVE USEFUL?
- (5) COULD THE US CONCIEVE OF RATIFYING CTB WHICH DID NOT ALLOW PNE'S? WOULD THE US ABANDON A PNE PROGRAM IF IT THOUGHT OTHER MAJOR STATES WERE PROCEEDING WITH THEIRS?
- (6) WHAT IS THE US ATTITUDE TO AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM ON PNE'S TESTING?
- (7) COULD THE US EXPLAIN DR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENT THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR A NATION WITH AN ADVANCED NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE PROGRAM TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN WEAPONS AND PNE'S BUT NOT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES?
- (8) WILL ANY VERIFICATION PROCEDURES AGREED FOR PNE'S IN NNWS ALSO APPLY TO PNE'S IN NWS? IF NOT, WHY NOT?

4. COMMENT: WE SHARE VIEW OF UK DEL THAT QUESTIONS ALONG THESE LINES ARE LIKELY TO BE ASKED AT PNE MEETING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON FURTHER RESPONSE TO UKDEL ABOUT THEIR ASKING (OR REFRAINING FROM ASKING) ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS. DALE UNQUOTE

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